



Parish of Natchitoches

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District 3

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District 4

Russell Rachal
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February 17, 2016

Natchitoches Parish Council
Patsy Ward Hoover Councilwoman District 2
P.O. Box 799
Natchitoches, LA 71458

Re: Formal Opinion on two issues: The first issue should a Chairman of the Parish Government who has a member of his family employed with the Parish in a Department has the right to vote on any issues concerning that Department.

Second opinion. Can that same Chairman of the Parish Council have a family member serving on a Fire District Board in the Parish.

Dear Office Of The Attorney General:

The Parish Council is writing to formally request a formal opinion of your office for two different opinion requests.

1. Chairman voting on a Budget Revision for a Department that he has a family member working in a capacity of Asst. to the Director of the Department.
2. A family member being selected to a Fire District Board while his brother is the Chairman of the Parish Council.

I'm asking for this opinion due to the fact we do not want to be doing anything that is not considered ethical. We had an agenda item on our monthly agenda to Adopt an Ordinance for revision of the Parish Budget for the Highway Department to purchase equipment, hauling, and capital outlay projects. When it came to the time to vote the Chairman of the Board voted yes for it and he was told him he should not be voting on this agenda item, since his brother is the Assistant to the Director at the Highway Department which the budget is being revised for.

So we're asking for an opinion in this matter.

In another matter we're asking for an opinion is that the Chairman of the Parish Council has another brother serving on a Fire District Board and we're asking for an opinion on this matter also.

I as a Parish Council, humbly asks for a formal opinion on the two items listed above for your professional opinion in the Attorney General Office on these two items. I, as a Council member, look forward to hearing from you soon on this matter.

Thank you,


Patsy Ward Hoover
Parish Council District 2

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